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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 219507

71
ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PM-04 SAM-01 OPR-02

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S/S:APSHANKLE
---------- 113145
O 040010Z SEP 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, LI (TOLBERT, PRESIDENT WILLIAM R.)

SUBJECT: TOLBERT STATE VISIT: WASHINGTON SCHEDULE

1. WHITE HOUSE HAS NOTIFIED DEPARTMENT THAT, DUE TO FIRST DEBATE BETWEEN PRESIDENT FORD AND CARTER SCHEDULED FOR EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 23, WHITE HOUSE PORTION OF STATE VISIT MUST BE MOVED AHEAD ONE DAY TO ALLOW PRESIDENT ADEQUATE TIME FOR PREPARATION. EVENTS AND PARTICIPANTS FOR FIRST AND SECOND DAYS REMAIN THE SAME BUT ONE DAY EARLIER. DEPT NOTIFIED AMBASSADOR HARMON, WHO HAS CONTACTED PRESIDENT TOLBERT IN LAGOS AND OBTAINED THE PRESIDENT'S AGREEMENT TO THIS CHANGE.
2. UNDER NEW SCHEDULE, PRESIDENT TOLBERT WOULD ARRIVE WILLIAMSBURG SEPTEMBER 20, HELICOPTER TO WASHINGTON SEPTEMBER 21, AND PARTICIPATE IN ARRIVAL CEREMONY, SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS AND STATE DINNER.
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PAGE 02 STATE 219507

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WE WILL BE MEETING WITH HARMON PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE
SEPTEMBER 3 TO DISCUSS OTHER POSSIBILITIES.

3. SINCE LENGTH OF STATE VISIT CANNOT BE ALTERED, THERE
MAY BE CONCERN AMONG GOL ABOUT TRANSPORTATION FROM ATLANTA

TO BALTIMORE ON THE 27TH. WE ARE INFORMED, HOWEVER, THAT
PROTOCOL HAS REQUESTED USE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PLANE FOR
THE DURATION OF THE VISIT IN THE UNITED STATES. IF
APPROVED, AS IS NORMALLY THE CASE, ADDED LENGTH OF VISIT
WOULD NOT FURTHER COMPLICATE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

4. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS EMBASSY INFORM CORE GROUP ASAP OF
SCHEDULE CHANGE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE PORTION OF THE TRIP.
PLEASE ADVISE REACTION.

ROBINSON

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